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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,526	01/23/2002	Kam S. Liang	M0025.0002/P001	3240

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EXAMINER

MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2686

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,526

Applicant(s)

LIANG, KAM S.

Examiner

Naghmeh Mehrpour

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S. C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed reference listed in the information Disclosure submitted on 08/13/02 have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

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4. Claims 1, 3-9, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Freeman (US Publication 2002/0052900 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Freeman teaches an input system for an electronic device comprising a plurality of two digit codes representing characters or character strings wherein information is input into the electronic device by pressing combinations of keys corresponding to two digit codes on an input interface (page 8 sections 0093).

Regarding claim 3, Freeman teaches an input system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the character strings are commonly used two letter combinations in the English language (see figure 16).

Regarding claim 4, Freeman teaches an input system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the character strings are letter combinations representing phonetic word sounds (page 11 section 0118).

Regarding claim 5, Freeman teaches an input system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a plurality of two digit codes representing punctuation marks and special characters (page 8 section 0099).

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Regarding claim 6, Freeman teaches an input system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an input key to switch between input modes for different languages (page 11 section 0119, page 12 section 126).

Regarding claim 7, Freeman teaches an input system for an electronic device comprising: a plurality of two digit numeric codes representing characters or character strings, wherein the code for a character string comprises a combination of the first digits from its component characters, and wherein information is input into the electronic device by pressing combinations of keys corresponding to two digit codes on an input interface (page 8 section 0093).

Regarding claim 8, Freeman teaches an input system for an electronic device (page 2 section 0021) comprising:

a numeric keypad, and a plurality of two digit numeric codes representing characters or character strings wherein the code for a character string comprises a combination of the first digits from its component characters, information being input into the electronic device by pressing combinations of numeric keys corresponding to two digit codes (page 8 section 0093).

Regarding claim 9, Freeman teaches an input system for an electronic device (page 2 section 0021) comprising:

a numeric keypad including a plurality of number keys, and a plurality of two digit numeric codes representing characters or character strings, the number key corresponding to the first digit in a two digit code for a character having printed thereon an identifier of the second digit

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in the code, and wherein the code for a character string comprises a communication of the first digits from its component characters (page 8 section 0093).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 2, is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hsiao (US Patent 5,619,563) disclose mnemonic number dialing plan

Mayas (US Patent 5,314,191) disclose word forming board game with mirrors

Abe (US Patent Number 4,279,022) disclose electronic calculation/memorandum apparatus

7. **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naghmeh Mehrpour whose telephone number is 703-308-7159.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00- 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha Banks-Harold be reached (703) 305-4379.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NM

November 26, 2004

MELODY WEHFOUR
PATENT EXAMINER
